

REMARKS

Prior to the First Office Action on the merits, please enter the amendments to the claims and consider the following comments.

Claims 18-26 are pending; of which claims 18, 24 and 26 are independent claims.

Claim 18 requires:

“providing information regarding projects of the charitable organization to the donor;

receiving a selection of a project from the donor;

providing a plurality of contribution options to the donor for the selected project, the contribution options comprising at least a gift and at least one of the following other contribution options: a sponsorship level, a membership, or a purchase of a tangible item”.

The art cited by the Patent Office in the final office action dated August 1, 2005, suggests that a donor can make a gift to, or purchase an item or a service from, a charitable organization. However, a donor may not wish to make an unrestricted gift to the charitable organization as a whole, or may not wish to make an unrestricted purchase from the charitable organization as a whole. Instead, the donor may wish to give to, or make a purchase with respect to, a particular project being funded, supported or sponsored by the charitable organization. The prior art neither suggests nor discloses that a charitable organization can or should be able to list different projects or that the donor can choose a particular project within a charitable organization.

In addition, the prior art neither suggests nor discloses that a charitable organization can or should be able to provide a plurality of contribution options to the donor for the selected project. These contribution options allow the donor to select whether to make a gift, which would be completely tax deductible, or another type of contribution option, such as a sponsorship level, a membership, or a purchase of a tangible item, which might not be completely tax deductible.

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POWELL, GOLDSTEIN (DTI-17)

NO. 656 P. 13

Application No.: 09/770,559

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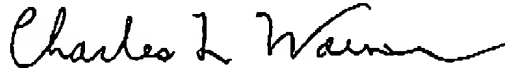
This flexibility and these options are neither suggested nor disclosed by the cited art. In addition, such flexibility and options are not obvious in view of the cited art.

Claims 24 and 26 have similar requirements.

In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 18-26 are allowable over the cited art, singly and in combination.

If the Examiner believes that there are any issues or informalities which can be resolved by a telephone conference, a telephone call to the undersigned is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
POWELL GOLDSTEIN LLP



By: Charles L. Warner II
Reg. No. 32,320

One Atlantic Center, 14th Floor
1201 West Peachtree Street, NW
Atlanta, Georgia 30309-3488
(404) 572-6718
cwarner@pogolaw.com

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